

OCHLERINI, A NEW TRIBE IN DISCOCEPHALINAE
(HEMIPTERA: PENTATOMIDAE)

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Abstract.—Ocherini is proposed as a new tribe of Discocephalinae. The tribe is characterized and 23 genera assigned to it.

The discocephalines, which are restricted to the Western Hemisphere, have been variously treated as a subfamily of Pentatomidae or a tribe of Pentatominae. Rolston and McDonald (1979) regarded this group as a subfamily and provided a diagnosis based primarily on the apparent origin of the labium, usually caudad of the anterior limit of the eyes, and the position of the trichobothria on sternite vii, the mesial member of each pair being on or, most often, laterad of an imaginary line projected tangentially along the lateral margins of the spiracular openings on sternites vi and vii. These authors removed all Western Hemisphere genera except *Brochymena* from Halyini in Pentatominae, placing *Caracia* Stål, *Marghita* Ruckes and *Janeirona* Distant in Pentatomini and the remaining genera in Discocephalinae. Those genera placed in Discocephalinae form a new tribe, for which a name and diagnosis are here provided, that is characterized primarily by the shallowly excavated or flattened superior surface of the third tarsal segment of the hind legs in females and sometimes in males as well. Members of this tribe are with few exceptions recognizable by their dull black or fuscous coloration, while the remaining genera of discocephalines, which constitute the nominate tribe, are brown, often mottled with black, or shiny black.

Ochlerini Rolston, new tribe

Type genus.—*Ochlerus* Spinola, 1837.

Diagnosis.—Superior surface of third tarsal segment of hind legs shallowly excavated in females and sometimes in males (only flattened in *Adoxoplatys*).

Trichobothria on at least last sternite laterad of adjacent spiracles, rarely with mesial trichobothrium of each pair on last sternite on line tangential to spiracle openings on last two sternites. Labium usually arising on or posterior to plane transecting head at right angle to longitudinal body axis and at anterior limit of eyes.

Basal segment of rostrum projecting caudad of bucculae, terminating on prosternum. Mesosternum thinly carinate mesially, metasternum usually so

but sometimes weakly tectiform, flat or sulcate. Metapleural ostioles each accompanied by auricle, this often somewhat elongated but not drawn out into ruga. Scutellum longer than wide at base (brachypterous forms excepted). All tibiae broadly sulcate. Spiracles present on paratergite 8 of females, on sternite 8 of males.

Comments: Among Western Hemisphere pentatomids the tarsal character state appears unique to this tribe. The location of the trichobothria laterad of the adjacent spiracle on the last sternite is characteristic of Discocephalinae, but this character state is also found in a few members of Pentatominae. The labial origin posterior to the anterior limit of the eyes is apparently constant in Discocephalini but variable in Ochlerini. All of the character states enumerated in the last paragraph of the diagnosis are constant in Ochlerini, as far as known, but various combinations of them appear elsewhere.

The following genera are placed in Ochlerini:

<i>Adoxoplatys</i> Breddin	<i>Miopygium</i> Breddin
<i>Alathesus</i> Dallas	<i>Moncus</i> Stål
<i>Alitocoris</i> Sailer	<i>Neadoxoplatys</i> Kormilev
<i>Audintella</i> Spinola	<i>Ochlerus</i> Spinola
<i>Brachelytron</i> Ruckes	<i>Orbatina</i> Ruckes
<i>Eritrachys</i> Ruckes	<i>Paralincus</i> Distant
<i>Herrichella</i> Distant	<i>Parochlerus</i> Breddin
<i>Lincus</i> Stål	<i>Pherecles</i> Stål
<i>Macropygium</i> Spinola	<i>Schaefferella</i> Spinola
<i>Melambyrsus</i> Breddin	<i>Schaderia</i> Ruckes
<i>Melanodermus</i> Stål	<i>Tetrochlerus</i> Breddin
<i>Minilincus</i> Ruckes	

I have examined species, usually the type species, of all of the above genera except *Audintella* and *Melambyrsus*. These two monotypic genera are included in Ochlerini on the basis of their descriptions.

The 23 genera of Ochlerini contain only 70 described species, but examination of a few collections reveals several undescribed genera and species.

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Literature Cited

Rolston, L. H. and F. J. D. McDonald. 1979. Keys and diagnosis for the families of Western Hemisphere Pentatomoidea, subfamilies of Pentatomidae and tribes of Pentatominae (Hemiptera). *J. N.Y. Entomol. Soc.* 87(3):189-207.

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